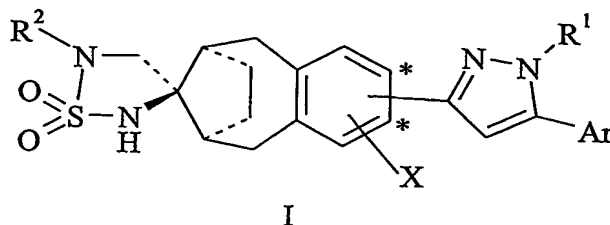


CLAIMS:

1. A compound of formula I:



wherein the pyrazole group is attached at one of the positions indicated by an asterisk and X is attached at a position adjacent thereto;

X represents H, OH, C₁₋₄alkoxy, Cl or F;

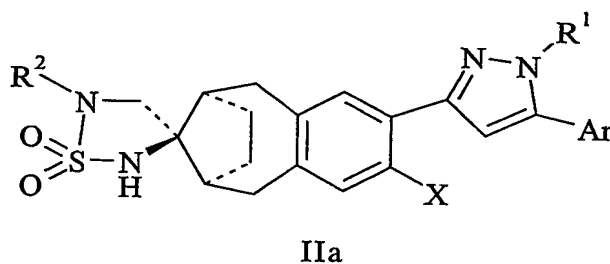
Ar represents phenyl or 6-membered heteroaryl, either of which bears 0-3 substituents independently selected from halogen, CF₃, CHF₂, CH₂F, NO₂, CN, OCF₃, C₁₋₆alkyl and C₁₋₆alkoxy;

R¹ represents a hydrocarbon group of 1-5 carbon atoms which is optionally substituted with up to 3 halogen atoms; and

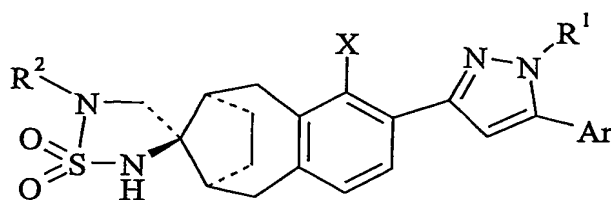
R² represents H or a hydrocarbon group of 1-10 carbon atoms which is optionally substituted with up to 7 halogen atoms;

provided that when X is H, R² does not represent 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. A compound according to claim 1 of formula IIa:



or formula IIIa:



IIIa

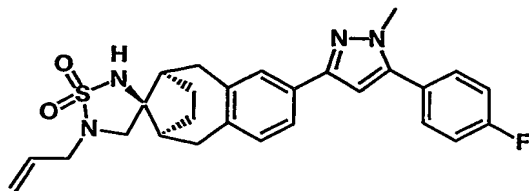
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

- 5 3. A compound according to any previous claim wherein Ar represents phenyl, monohalophenyl, dihalophenyl, trihalophenyl, cyanophenyl, methylphenyl, methoxyphenyl, trifluoromethylphenyl, trifluoromethoxyphenyl, pyridyl, monohalopyridyl and trifluoromethylpyridyl, wherein "halo" refers to fluoro or chloro.

- 10 4. A compound according to any previous claim wherein R² represents H, benzyl, or alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl or cycloalkylalkyl of up to 6 carbon atoms, or benzyl, and optionally bears up to 5 fluorine substituents.

- 15 5. A compound according to claim 2 wherein X is H, R¹ is methyl, Ar is 4-fluorophenyl and R² is selected from H, benzyl, n-propyl, 2,2-dimethylpropyl, n-butyl, isopropyl, t-butyl, 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl, 2,2-difluoroethyl, 2,2,3,3,3-pentafluoropropyl, 3,3,3-trifluoropropyl, allyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl and cyclopropylmethyl.

- 20 6. The compound of formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

7. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any previous claim and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

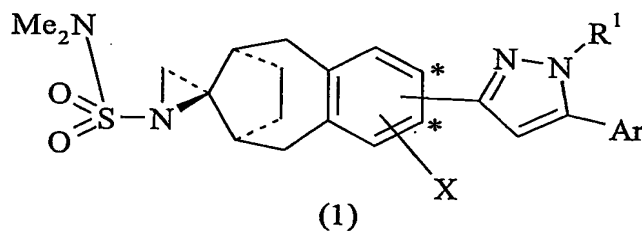
5 8. A compound according to any of claims 1-6 for use in therapy.

9. The use of a compound according to any of claims 1-6 for the manufacture of a medicament for treatment or prevention of Alzheimer's disease.

10 10. A method of treatment of a subject suffering from or prone to Alzheimer's disease which comprises administering to that subject an effective amount of a compound according to any of claims 1-6.

11. A process for preparing a compound according to claim 1 in which R² is other than H comprising reaction of a compound of formula (1):

15



with R^{2a}NH₂;

20 where the pyrazole group is attached at one of the positions indicated by an asterisk and X is attached at a position adjacent thereto;

R^{2a} is R² that is other than H;

and X and Ar, R¹ and R² are as defined in claim 1.